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HAMILTON LIFE

The Weekly Student Publication of Hamilton College

VOL. XII CLINTON, N. Y., TUESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1910 No. 14

Seniors Win

The annual interclass debate, between the Seniors and Juniors, which was held in the Chapel last Wednesday night, was won by the former. The question was, "Should We Commend the Attitude and Action of Persident Taft in the Recent Tariff Legislation," the Seniors upholding the negative and the Juniors the affirmative side. The 1910 team was composed of Mix, Ondarcho, Glover and Dounce; the 1911 team of Colson, O'Brien, Jones and Wisehart, with Baldwin, '10, and Getman, '11, as alternates. President Stryker presided and the committee of judges consisted of Professors Brandt, Saunders and Hollands.

The main issue of the debate around which both sides built their arguments, was as to whether President Taft carried out the policies and promises of the Republican party, and at the same time faithfully exercised his duty as Chief Executive in refusing to veto the tariff bill. The principal contention of the Seniors was that the recent legislation did not attain to the ideal set by the Republican platform; that the revision was not materially downward, and that, in refusing to veto the bill Mr. Taft laid himself open to criticism. On the other hand, the Juniors contended that the tariff legislation was the best that could be expected under existing conditions; that the increase in the tariff rates was sufficient to warrant the bill's adoption, and that in signing the bill President Taft not only openly obeyed the mandates of his party, but acted for the best interests of the country.

In opening the debate for the Juniors, Mr. Colson showed the obligation of the executive to the legislative bodies of the federal government, and maintained that the President was not responsible for faults in the laws which he has not made. The legislators are the law makers, and therefore responsible for the existing laws. It is the duty of the President to recommend legislation, but not to legislate. On rebuttal, he reiterated the statement that the executive would be exceeding his constitutional rights if he attempted to coerce legislation.

Mix asserted, in the first speech on the negative side, that the object of the recent tariff legislation was to lower the rates of the Dingley Law. If Taft did not live up to this avowed pledge of the Republican party, then his attitude and action are to be condemned. On second appearance, Mix showed that the recent legislation was based upon the biased reports of interested parties, and that the testimony of reliable investigators was not considered in framing the bill.

O'Brien contended that President Taft acted in good faith, in that by signing the tariff bill he obtained a reduction on many stable commodities, such as leather, hides, lumber, etc., besides a permanent Tariff Committee, to investigate tariff legislation. The action of the President in the recent struggle was in conjunction with the conference Committee. He did all he could without coercing legislation.

The second speaker on the negative, Ondarcho, showed that Taft did not make use of all of the material at his disposal; that his action in consulting the legislative bodies was tardy. According to the Senate Committee on Finance the rates are from two to three per cent. higher than they were. Revision downward is not upon articles which affect the cost of living, the only honest revision being on boots and shoes.

S. W. Jones argued that the attitude of the President should be commended because he was frank to admit his own dissatisfaction with the bill. It is incomplete but can, upon a better basis of fact, be revised. In its present form it makes the rates on luxuries higher, and on staple commodities lower, but the articles classed as luxuries amount to only one-eighteenth of the total income

Glover held that Taft disregarded the promises of his party and his constitutional duty by not vetoing the tariff bill. The party was sent to the Capital to revise the tariff downward, but this was not done; therefore Taft is responsible for the bill which was devised as a fulfillment of the party pledge.

Wisehart closed the debate for the affirmative. He stated that if Taft had vetoed the bill a split in the Republican party would have resulted. Why censure the executive for the inefficiency of the legislators? Mr. Taft has the interests of the country at heart, in that he did the best he could with the material at hand. By longer delaying the passage of the bill he would have caused a greater uncertainty in the business world.

Dounce, who spoke last for the negative, said that the blame put upon the Republican party belongs equally to Taft, because he is the leader of the party. He was aware of the nature of the legislation that was being enacted, and saw the methods that were used to suppress downward revision. His advice when given was too late. President Taft is trying to make his two attitudes consistent, which is a difficult thing for a man of his avoirdupois to do.

Dr. Stryker, during the time the judges were arriving at their decision, expressed his approval of the debate, adding that it was the best interclass debate that had been given in the Chapel in some time.

Sophomores Dine

Peace reigns once more on the Campus. Now a Sophomore can talk to a Freshman without mutual distrust; once more can two Sophomores stop to borrow "makin's" without arousing the deductive powers of Freshmen Sherlock Holmes.

For the expected has happened; the Sophomore Banquet came off according to schedule, last Wednesday evening. And to those who never expect the unexpected, the coincidence of the Freshmen holding their feast on that same eventful eve was surely a great surprise.

About five forty-five last Wednesday evening, stealthy forms slipped from dormitories and fraternity houses, and being able to discern no watchful Freshmen, slid cautiously down hill. Here the "gang" was assembled. With much rejoicing a special car was boarded, and after a wait for one tardy straggler, they started on the Appian Way to the Eternal City.

Reinforced in Utica, 1912 reached the Seven-Hilled citadel about eight-thirty. Hastening to the Temple of Mirth, in this case Stamoix Hall, they were served a thoroly satisfying beefsteak dinner. This important business having been transacted, Walker as toastmaster called on various unfortunates for a few remarks. Bates spoke

of the pleasures and responsibilities of *"The Centennial Class."* Boone paid his respects to *"The Toddlers,"* who were meanwhile probably scurfing the Rusty Sophs to their best ability. The miseries of *"The Cold, Cold World"* were graphically presented by Esmond. *"The Faculty"* was honored by Knox, and *"Les Belles Femmes"* received a touching tribute from Nixon. *"Before the Bar," "Of Justice"*, were the subjects appropriately presented by Dorrance and Bedenkapp. Marsh told the ideas of the class on the subject "Upperclassmen." McGovern made a big hit in his monolog *"Dutch and Oi,"* a tragic tale of suffering. The fellowship of "The Hill" was Hull's theme. With the singing of *Carissima,* the company adjourned, to dally in various Temples of Bacchus until they took the special for home, about midnight.

Boone was chairman of the committee which made the successful arrangements; the other members were Adams, Baird, Hull, Knox, Peck, Regin, Root, Thomas.

BASEBALL SOUTHERN TRIP.

The baseball trip, which was planned for spring vacation, having been abandoned on account of conflict with the Musical Clubs' trip, another plan is now being considered. The team will be given a short practice trip before the regular season opens, and it is stated that this may extend as far south as Virginia. It is uncertain whether a schedule can be arranged for such a trip, owing to the late date, but every effort is being made to make the plan a success.

The first practice of the season will be held this week, when the batteries will be called out. Later the whole squad will be divided into sections and given light practice in bunting and sliding bases. The practices will be held in the Gym, and will be under the direction of Captain Judson.

The Freshmen who have reported as candidates for assistant manager of baseball are: Clapp, H. Jessup, Kultchar, McKee and Trout.

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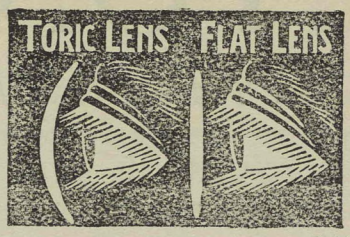

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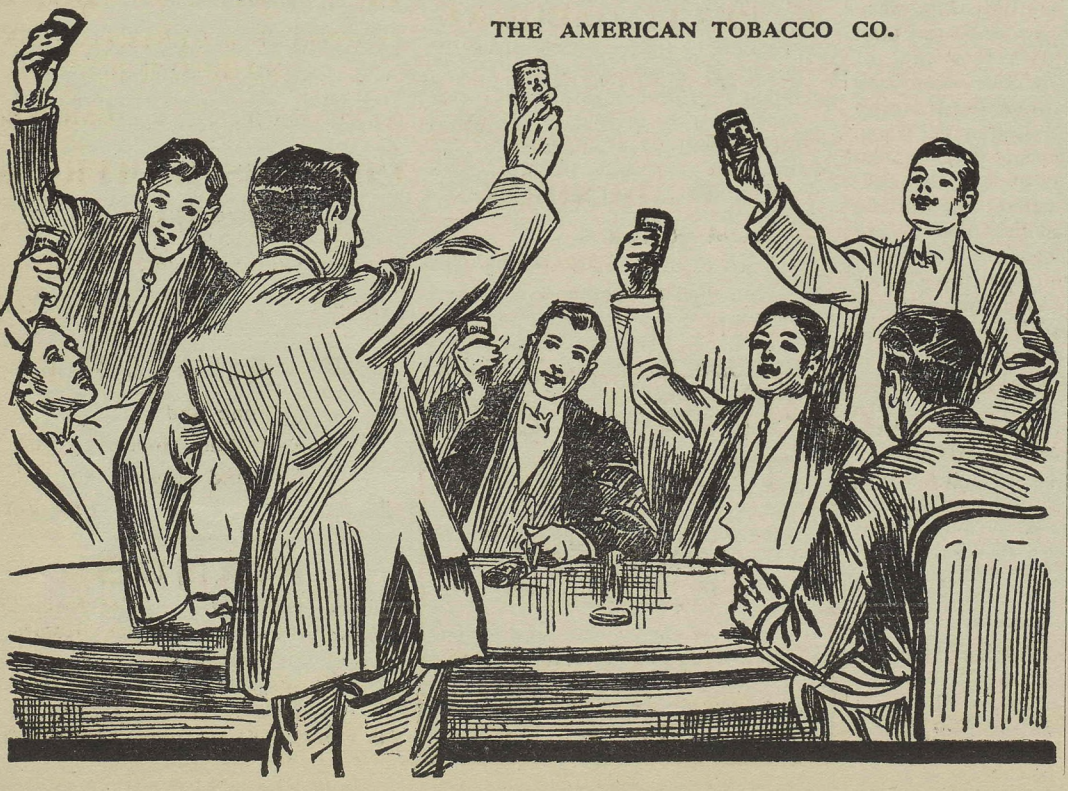

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Reportorial

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THE DETERMINATION of the Junior Prom. Committee to stop festivities at the conservative hour of three is one that should be heartily commended. In past years we have danced and danced until the dull and grim light of the morning sun changed the scene from one that was bright with happy faces to one that presented far from an aesthetic appearance. It is a custom which might almost be called barbarous. Surely it cannot add to the pleasure of the dance to keep going and going until everyone is worn out, and unable to enjoy the festivities of the next evening. There is just one difficulty in the way. This same determination for a more sane Prom. has been made manifest in past years, but, alas, it never was of any avail. We danced on just the same and were just as tired out and bedraggled as we had been the year before. Perhaps it will be different this year, and no "morning after" feeling will mar the pleasure of the Prom. All success to the Committee; we hope that their efforts will be successful.

THE INTERCLASS CONTEST was an auspicious opening of the 1910 debating season. It goes to show one thing at least, namely, that the new system of choosing the teams to represent the several classes and the College is a step in the right direction. We venture to say that the old helter skelter method had much to do with Hamilton's unsuccessful intercollegiate debating during the past few years. Now that the correct, or at least a better, method has been discovered one obstacle has been removed. But there is still much to be done, if the coming debates are to be an unqualified success. In the first place it will be a difficult season. The recently formed Triangular Debate League will afford an opportunity for the teams to show the worth of the Hamilton debating system, and the value of the required course in this College. It does appear rather ridiculous on the face of things that a team representing an institution renowned for its forensic training should be twice defeated by that of a college which is essentially a technical institution. But that has surely been the case. What is the cause of the trouble? Good debating depends more than anything else on hard and consistent work, and then some more work, and then still some more. And that is just the proposition that is before the teams who are to represent the College during the coming term. There is no reason whatever why our success against Colgate and Union should not be assured. The teams certainly have the benefit of all the training that Hamilton affords. And it is their privilege to make good its application. That and that only can show the value of any system. Theory is worthless unless it can be carried out in practice. The success or failure of the coming debates will show either that the Hamilton system is of great value, or that it accomplishes little more than to give the ability of producing a fanfaronade of words. It is up to the teams, and with the proper amount of hard, consistent work, they should have no trouble to impress the former alternative upon the minds of Hamilton's opponents.

THE RECENT DECISION of the Athletic Committee of the Faculty in favor of the plans of Martin, '11, for an Indoor Meet in Utica in March is unquestionably the greatest "boost" the Track Department has received in the present college generation. Winter intercollegiate track competition, long needed as a foundation for a successful Spring team, is now sanctioned by the Faculty, and a strong incentive is offered for indoor track practice in the form of three relay meets, and a full track contest, with the exception of the hurdles, in Utica.

In spite of these concessions, which will go far in placing the track on a sound financial basis, competition is needed as never before to develop what track material we have. The showing made by the underclasses in the Fall track meet was anything but encouraging. The influence of the "two meet rule" has, perhaps, caused sub-Freshmen interested in track to seek other colleges. This lack of "Star" men can be overcome by a month or so of hard training on the part of the available track material. The Faculty and an energetic manager have done all in their power to make for a successful season. This year track has the best schedule ever planned for a Hamilton team, and two hundred dollars has been voted towards the salary of a coach. The indoor track has been repaired in preparation for the first call for candidates. The relay squad is now hard at work.

When the first serious training for the track team begins after Junior Week, the Department has every right to expect a squad of thirty-five or forty men. It has tried to make the drudgery of a few months' practice worth while, and to rescue this branch of athletics from the "minor sports." In this critical year for track, hard, faithful practice on the part of every man who can aid in any way in gaining the victories over Rochester, Union, St. Lawrence will prove that the Athletic Committee's decision was a step in the right direction. It is the duty of the track candidates to keep up in their work and fight to make the 1910 season produce the first of a long series of winning track teams.

ADDRESS OF ADAMS, '91

Samuel Hopkins Adams, '91, author and journalist and a trustee of the college, addressed the Senior Seminar in English, Friday afternoon. "Newspaper journalism," said he, "is a trade. Not many who enter it survive. By the law of averages, out of twenty men, ten will survive the first year. The second year, of the ten men left, five at least will drop out. Of the five survivors, three may become humdrum newspaper men; one of the two left should be a good reporter. Out of a thousand men one would be an editor, perhaps, or become a Washington or London correspondent. One in ten thousand would be a rare journalist, as Arthur Brisbane, a man who is a real political and social force.

"A man can't be a good reporter always, because reporting demands freshness of interest." Speaking of what you get out of journalism, Mr. Adams said, "They get the quality of human interest. That is the essential quality of modern journalism. Human interest underlies that indefinable entity, —news. News is what is interesting, not necessarily what is impeortant. An old managing editor of the *New York Sun* was accustomed to explain this point by the following illustration: If you should see a dog with a tin can tied to his tail running down Broadway

that would not be news, but if you should see this same dog slowly sauntering down Broadway exchanging commonplaces with his acquaintances, that would be news and I would give it half a column. Ability lies in distinguishing between the essential and the non-essential. A reporter sees deeper into a large variety of human nature than any except the trained sociologist.

"There is a general impression that newspaper training teaches a man how to write, but this is not strictly true; but it does give him primary principles and a development of intellectual muscles. The *New York Times*, a short time ago, published a semi-editorial stating that newspaper English is to be the English of the future, but this is false. The element of haste prevents making journalism literature. You don't get style in a newspaper office. Style is natural—it comes thru the right kind of reading."

He concluded by saying, "It is almost impossible to keep a newspaper entirely independent. All of them are in a measure allied to some interest which determines a policy. At least nine-tenths of the newspapers in this country are a financial loss. They are owned and controlled by men who own them for some special interest."

ORATION AWARDS

In Chapel Friday morning President Stryker announced the following awards for winter orations:

The Forty-Eighth Pruyn Medal Oration to Dounce, '10, on the subject, "The Duty of Trained Minds Toward Social Leadership."

The Forty-Seventh Head Prize Oration to Glover, '10, the subject being, "If Alexander Hamilton Were in Politics Today."

The Thirty-Eighth Kirkland Prize Oration to Stube, '10, the subject being, "Idyllic Features of the Old Testament."

PROPOSED PLAN AMENDED

At a meeting of the College body held in the Chapel Friday afternoon it was decided to send the proposed amendments to the constitution of the Athletic Association back to the Advisory Board, with the additional amendment that the proposed Board of Estimate and Apportionment should be limited, in their power to declare a per capita tax, to the sum of fifteen dollars a year.

Prof. Lewis presided, and, after having read the proposed amendments called for discussion. Baldwin, '10, then offered the additional amendment above mentioned, which after some discussion was carried with but two dissenting votes. During the meeting Prof. Caruth presented the treasurer's report, which disclosed several interesting items. The report shows that student expenses have been rapidly increasing, the total expenditures of the Association for the year 1907 having been $3500 while those for 1908 and 1909 amounted to $4360 and $4680 respectively. Prof. Caruth showed that taking 1909 as a basis, and deducting the amount expended for basketball, tennis, guarantees and support of the musical clubs, which are on a paying basis, it would be necessary to raise approximately $2200 for the coming year.

The general spirit of the meeting and the result of an informal ballot indicate that the amendment will probably be carried when re-submitted to the College. Any opposition that existed has almost entirely been removed by the imposition of the fifteen dollar maximum.

During the meeting Gouge, '11, was unanimously elected manager of the football department to succeed Riley, '12, resigned.

JUNIOR PROM

The Prom Committee has been active in the past two weeks, and final arrangements have been completed. The general plan of the decorations this year will be buff and blue with the Junior Class colors, red and grey, intermingling; something entirely new is being planned for in this line; Allen of Utica will do the work. It has been thought advisable to conclude the dance at three o'clock this year and every effort will be exerted to carry this out.

Advance cards will be out on Saturday, the 29th. The committee wish to announce that it will be very much appreciated if tickets be purchased as far in advance as possible. The program for the week is as follows:

Wednesday evening—Alpha Delta Phi, Psi Upsilon, Theta Delta Chi, E. L. S. Receptions.

Thursday afternoon—Musical Clubs' Concert in Commons Hall.

Thursday evening—Junior Prom.

Friday afternoon—The Charlatans will present "My Nephew."

Friday evening—Sigma Phi, Chi Psi, Delta Kappa Epsilon, and Delta Upsilon Reception.

CHARLATANS REHEARSING

With the approach of Junior Week the attention of the College is gradually turning to the work of the Charlatans. Anticipation is running high, and it is confidently believed that this term's production will set a new standard for Hamilton dramatics. Three men of experience in college theatricals, Dounce, Getman and Hastings, '10 will form the nucleus of a strong cast, which under the able coaching of Prof. Shepard and Mr. Clinton Scollard, '81, should more than fulfill all expectations.

The Charlatans have chosen for their vehicle, "My Nephew," a farce comedy in three acts. The play revolves about a case of mistaken identity, which altho an old theme, has been treated in a new and entirely original manner. Those who have been privileged to witness rehearsals say that the brilliancy and humor of its dialogue is equalled only by its wealth of clever situations. The cast has been selected with great care, Prof. Shepard having been very successful in obtaining the necessary types. Special attention has been given the feminine roles. The cast follows:

Mr. Windhurst ..... O'Brien, '11
Philip Windhurst ..... Burdick, '11
Mr. Merriweather .... Wisehart, '11
Mr. Rawden Merriweather .....
..... E. H. Jones, '11
Rev. Augustus Ponsonby .....
..... Dounce, '10
Mr. Stanley Hawkins .. Harper, '11
James ..... Fawcett, '11
Celia Windhurst ..... Gouge, '11
Masie Watson ..... Erskine, '12
Mrs. Russett ..... Hastings, '10
Miss Cramley ..... Getman, '10

In addition to "My Nephew" five Freshmen will present as a curtain raiser, a one act comedy entitled "Freezing a Mother-in-law." Clark, Townsend, H. Jessup, Stone and Heidner, '13, will constitute the cast, the latter two appearing in feminine roles.

The entire performance will be under the stage direction of Dounce, '10, while Fawcett, '11, will act as business manager. The net proceeds will be devoted to furthering the interests of the Athletic Association.

"My Nephew" will be presented at the Scollard Opera House for but one performance, on the afternoon of Friday, February 4.

In regard to the future plans of the Charlatans there is a growing belief that that society should be placed on a competitive basis, and dramatics made a feature of the Winter Term. A large number of students have signified their willingness to enter such work and it is probable that some definite action will be taken in the near future.

JUNIOR FESTIVITIES

Not to be outdone in banqueting by the two underclasses, the Juniors arranged for a Beefsteak Dinner, which was served Saturday night at the Yates Hotel in Utica. The occasion was quite informal and altho no toast list was prepared several men were called upon and responded impromptu. In the afternoon about half of the class made up a theater party at the Shubert.

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NOTES

—Collins, '13, has been elected Manager of the Freshman Basketball team.

—Dr. Squires addressed the Farmers' Institute at Rome last Thursday on the subject, "Our Rural Schools."

—The Bowling matches scheduled for last Monday and Thursday evenings were postponed.

—Prof. E. S. Babcock recently passed the Civil Service Examination for State Lecturer of the State Education Department.

—Harold Aron, ex-'09, arrived on the Hill Thursday and immediately took charge of Prof. Davenport's classes in Elementary Law.

—The Press Club announces the election of Porter, '13, to the Club. The standing of the other contestants is as follows: Hallock, '12, E. Jones, '11, Bates, '12, Groves, '13.

BOWLING

The first bowling match of the Interfraternity League has been rolled, between the teams representing Alpha Delta Phi and E. L. S. The former won the match by two games to one. Townsend, '13, of the winners, rolled the best game, 193, while Batchelor, '13, had the highest total, rolling 159, 180 and 181 for an average of 173.

ALPHA DELTA PHI

	1st	2nd	3rd	T'tl
Titus, '10	109	169	160	438
Townsend, '13 ..	134	193	163	490
Trout, '13	133	167	137	437
Eells, '12	166	103	91	360
Gouge, '11	114	140	103	367
Totals	656	772	654	2082

E. L. S.

	1st	2nd	3rd	T'tl
Sheffield, '11 ..	151	143	155	449
Colson, '11	118	105	90	313
Batchelor, '13 ..	159	181	180	520
Clapp, '13	102	120	137	359
Connell, '12	97	140	141	378
Totals	627	689	703	2019

The Manager of Intramural Sports has announced the Interfraternity Bowling Schedule. The complete schedule follows:

Jan. 17—Psi Upsilon vs. Theta Delta Chi.
" 20—Sigma Phi vs. Chi Psi.
" 24—Delta Upsilon vs. Delta Kappa Epsilon.
" 27—Alpha Delta Phi vs. Sigma Phi.
" 31—Psi Upsilon vs. Delta Kappa Epsilon.
Feb. 7—E. L. S. vs. Chi Psi.
" 10—Delta Upsilon vs. Theta Delta Chi.
" 14—Alpha Delta Phi vs. Chi Psi.
" 17—Psi Upsilon vs. Delta Upsilon.
" 21—E. L. S. vs. Sigma Phi.
" 24—Theta Delta Phi vs. Delta Kappa Epsilon.

These matches are so arranged that two championships will result.

The final contest, between the teams winning the Downhill and Uphill championships will be rolled on February 28.

The individual tournament, it is announced, will not be opened until there are 35 members in the Bowling Club. This decision was made in order to insure sufficient interest in the undertaking, and to make competition for the College championship more keen.

ATE, WERE MERRY, ETC.

On Wednesday night of last week, the Freshmen held their annual banquet at the Hotel Jefferson, Syracuse. The arrangements of the committee were complete in every detail, and, in spite of predictions to the contrary, worked out with great accuracy. At 5.30 o'clock the Freshmen began to leave the Hill, and assembled at a farmhouse, some distance down the D. K. E. road, where conveyances were in waiting to take them to Clarks Mills. Here the jovial throng boarded a car Syracuseward, with nothing but scorn for the Sophomores, who in their mad flight had let their quarry slip thro their fingers. Be it said in approval of the Sophomores' plans for the escape, that not one was unnecessarily conspicuous during the departure of the Freshmen.

Arrived at Syracuse, the Class at once proceeded to the Hotel Jefferson, where all was in readiness for their entertainment. The tables were arranged in the form of a letter "H", and were copiously decorated with the Class colors, navy blue and white. Hamilton banners were displayed thruout the long hall, while the menu cards bore in addition to the menu and toast list, the names of the Class officers and the Committee.

At 9 o'clock, headed by the Class officers the Freshmen gathered around the tables, and with Carissima and a Class yell, began the evening's festivities. During the course of the dinner all seemed to enter into the spirit of the occasion with a vigor characteristic of 1913. While the last courses were being served, Blodgett, '09, and Stone, ex-'09, came, and later, when called upon, responded with a few remarks timed for the occasion.

In the capacity of toastmaster, President Stone, after a few preliminary remarks, introduced several members of the class, who responded to the following toasts: "Spirit of 1913," Ingersoll; "H. B. Sykes, Esq.", Cross; "Faculty," Lyon; "Stude and Stewed," Townsend; "Rust," Simonds; "Athletics," Kultchar; "Busy Corner," Parsons; "Alma Mater," Blackmar. The responses were extremely interesting.

When the last toast had been given, the banquet broke up, and all hastened for the special car which was in readiness for the homeward journey. Upon arriving in Clinton the Freshmen learned of the retreat of the Sophomores and their subsequent return in the enemies' absence. The only evidence of warlike tactics on the part of the foragers was a few mangled pallets on the Hill and the scars of battle brought back from Rome where the arm of the Law had sought to restore the spoils of war to the inhabitants.

The Freshman Banquet Committee consisted of the following men: Roberts, *Chairman;* McKee, Thompson, Jessup, Rodger, Myer, Gould and Collins.

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